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DRAFT

Soviet Operational Capabilities With Ballistic Missiles

Based on considerable evidence of Soviet research and development programs, current national intelligence estimates conclude that ballistic missiles of various maximum ranges became available for operational use in the USSR as follows:

100 nautical mile missile - 1954

200 nautical mile missile - 1954

350 nautical mile missile - 1954

700 nautical mile missile - 1956

The USSR has also developed an 1,100 nautical mile ballistic missile, which probably became available for operational use in 1958.

The dates above are the years during which the first trained operational units could have been equipped with these missiles. Series production of the missiles ^would probably have begun somewhat earlier than the dates indicated.

Production of ballistic missiles has been identified at several factories in the USSR, but available evidence is insufficient to determine the scale of production. We have not identified any military units equipped with these missiles.

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With respect to 700 and 1,100 mile missiles, it is possible that at present the USSR has only a very limited capability to employ them in military operations. But considering such factors as estimated Soviet requirements, availability of nuclear materials for warheads, and experience in shorter range missiles, we believe that the USSR may now have an operational capability with as many as several hundred ballistic missiles of 700 mile range, and with a few 1,100 mile missiles.

It is likewise possible that the present Soviet capability to employ shorter-range ballistic missiles in military operations is quite small. On the other hand, considering Soviet production experience and capacity, as well as the passage of ample time to produce and to train troops since 1954, it is possible that the USSR's present operational capability with missiles in the 100-350 mile class comprises as many as several thousand missiles. In view of other Soviet requirements for nuclear materials, however, it is unlikely that many of these missiles would be equipped with nuclear warheads at present.